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Reviewed by: Elijah Kelly Jr.

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SUBJECT: Date of next Sino-US Talk

Date: 4-16-88 19

1. CH'IEN called SIMONS 0915 February 2 to ask for appointment at 1000, offering to come to US Embassy.

After consultation with me, Simons called back to accept. Simons and Champeau received Ch'ien and YEH at 1000 in meeting room second floor.

- 2. After pleasantries, Chien said he was calling under instructions from his Charge to discuss date of 136th formal meeting. Chinese side proposed February 20.
- 3. Simons replied that he would report the Chinese proposal and be in touch with Chine as soon as possible concerning our response. Pointed out, however, (in accordance my prior instructions) that my present plans call for me to be in Washington February 18-26, although this did not necessarily mean I could not arrange be here on February 20.

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Walter J. Stoessel, Jr.

CLEARANCES.

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ACTION:

Chien asked whether I would be away on vacation; Champeau and Simons described system of recalling ambassadors for Congressional subcommittee hearings and noted this was purpose my visit. Chien accepted explanation, then asked again when Chinese could expect answer. Simons said he unable give firm reply but thought it would be within next XX days.

- 4. Rest of fifteen-minute visit occupied by Chinese questions and US answers concerning old Warsaw talk hands and Simons' professional background. Both Chinese accepted coffee and Chien accepted cigarette. Atmosphere informal; Chinese came without papers and no notes taken. On leaving Chinese reminded Simons of proposed date, and Simons repeated he would be in touch asap.
- 5. Comment: I felt it advisable for Simons to mention my proposed return to Washington, EX so Chinese would be forewarned of our reasons in event we wish to suggest alternate date. Request Department endeavor ascertain

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ACTION:

whether actual time of my appearance before House Subcommittee for hearings on CU budget (STATE 11237) can be determined with more precision and will stick. If hearing likely (or could be arranged) in week beginning February 23. then I would have no problem with February 20 date for 136th meeting. If this not feasible, decision will have to be made in Department whether I should return as scheduled and another date be proposed to Chinese, or whether I should forego subcommittee hearings. GP-2.

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